

Oppose HB 175

Good Afternoon Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members. Thank you for allowing me to testify today.

I am opposed to this bill for many reasons, most of which you have probably already heard here today. I am in possession of a MD issued HQL so this bill would exclude me from having to undergo a NICS background check everytime I needed to purchase ammunition. I am still opposed because I do not and cannot grasp how this bill will make anything better for the law abiding citizens of Maryland and more specifically Baltimore City and surrounding metro areas.

I do not believe this bill will decrease our crime rate as the criminals do not abide by the law and will disregard this one as well as all the others. I do believe it will have an adverse effect. I believe the crime rate will increase as more thefts of ammunition occur.

The decrease of availability is already causing the prices of ammunition to rise to an almost unaffordable rate. Adding the restrictions outlined in this bill will surely make many smaller FFL's incur unreasonable added expenses to upgrade pos equipment and software, which will require them to pass those costs on to law abiding consumers such as myself.

This bill is unnecessary in the requirement of the FFL to identify the purchaser of the ammunition. In most retail purchases made today people are using digital forms of payment such as credit and bank cards where the consumer's identity already becomes known. As is the case with many FFL transactions. In my case I am a loyal shopper, the management of the FFL's I make purchases from know me by face, name and reputation.

This bill would require a NICS check that is legally prohibited under federal law. The bill would impose massive record-keeping requirements on the dealer and on the Maryland State Police and is a further infringement on the rights of law abiding citizens.

Thank you for reading my testimony and I urge you to respond with an Unfavorable Report.

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